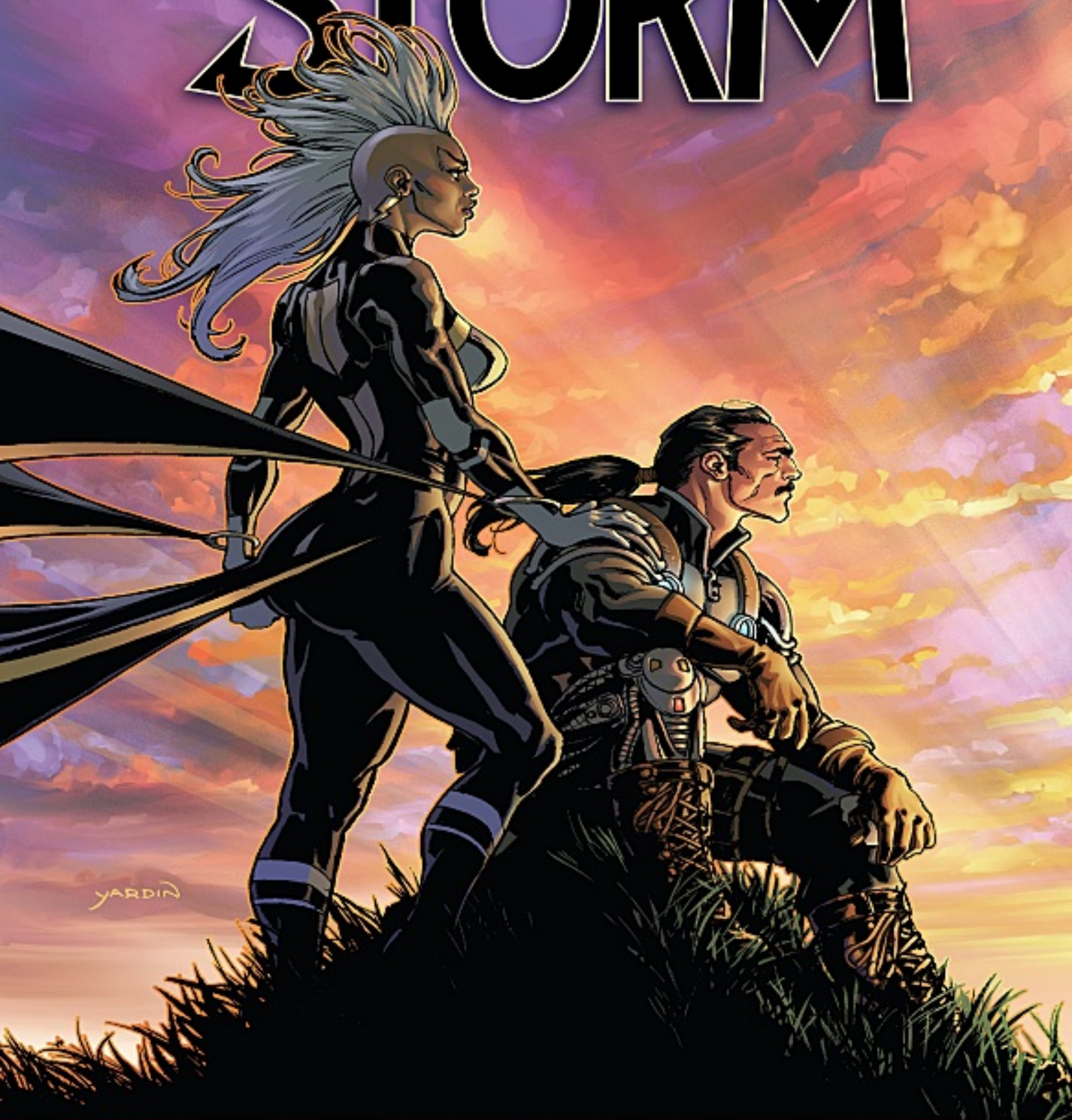


STORM



MARVEL

PAK
HEPBURN
BALDEON

003

Thief. Goddess. Headmistress. Queen. The X-Man called STORM has always defied a single title. And her desire to better the world has never been limited to only her own kind.

STORM



PREVIOUSLY...

After quelling a tsunami in the South American country of Santo Marco and rebuffing the local anti-mutant militia, Storm returned to New York, where she took to the streets in search of a missing teenager. She ultimately found the girl in the sewers under Manhattan, living with other wayward youth alongside former X-Men foe Callisto. But witnessing the community built amongst these runaways below ground—much better than the lives above from which they had fled—Storm went against convention and left the girl in Callisto's care.

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JEAN GREY SCHOOL FOR HIGHER LEARNING
WESTCHESTER, NEW YORK

MROW?

MROW!

OH,
SHUSH.

NOT TO
BE TOO
OBVIOUS...

...BUT
THAT'S US IN
A NUTSHELL.
ISN'T IT,
ORORO?

WE CAN
SAVE THE
WORLD...

...BUT
SOMEONE'S
GOING TO GET
RAINED ON.

POOR
KITTIES.

WHAT'S
TROUBLING
YOU, HENRY?

OH, YOU KNOW,
RESIDUAL REMORSE
FOR HELPING YOU
ILLEGALLY HACK INTO
PHONE RECORDS TO
CHASE DOWN
RUNAWAYS...

...AND
THEN LEAVE THEM
IN THE SEWERS WITH AN
ARCH-VILLAINESS.*

* IN STORM #2!
PRETTY CRAZY,
HUH? -- DANIEL.

YOU KNOW
IT WAS THE
RIGHT THING,
DON'T YOU?



...I REMEMBER
KENYA.



RETURN OF THE GODDESS



I'VE BEEN IN THE
NEIGHBORHOOD A FEW
TIMES OVER THE YEARS.

GOT SHOT
IN THE HEAD.

SAVED A BABY.
WATCHED AN
OLD MAN DIE.

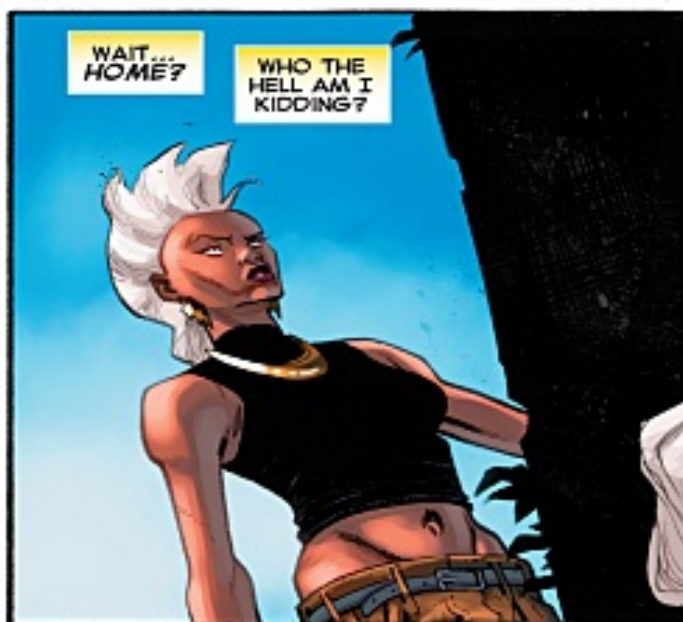
REDISCOVERED MY
WHOLE PURPOSE IN
LIFE...FOR A WHILE.



BUT I NEVER
MADE IT ALL
THE WAY
BACK HERE...



...ALL THE
WAY HOME.



WAIT...
HOME?

WHO THE
HELL AM I
KIDDING?



HA.
SCENE OF
THE CRIME,
EH?



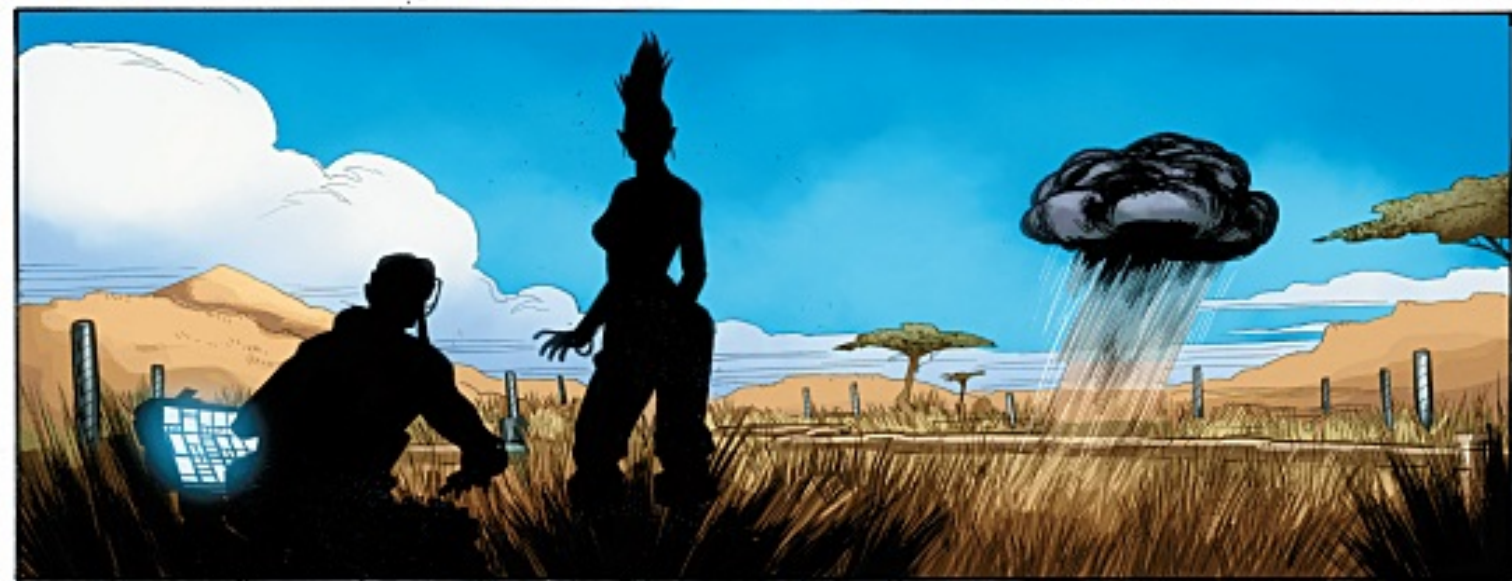






“THIS THING IS TOO IMPORTANT.”





BRRRAAAAK OOOOPII

...OR THIS.

HA HA!

MY GOD...

SO, YEAH...

...I NEED TO CALIBRATE IT.

CLICK

WHICH IS WHERE I COULD REALLY USE YOUR HELP.

FORGE. THIS IS... INCREDIBLE.

BUT I DON'T KNOW IF YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE DOING.

AS MY POWERS HAVE GROWN...

...I'VE LEARNED ABOUT NEW LIMITS.

IF I MAKE IT RAIN FOR A WEEK RIGHT HERE...

...IT MIGHT CAUSE A DROUGHT A THOUSAND MILES AWAY.

I...I DIDN'T KNOW THAT.

BUT THIS IS EXACTLY WHY I'M ASKING YOU FOR HELP.



I'M NATIVE
AMERICAN.
CHEYENNE.

MY
GREAT-GREAT-
GRANDFATHERS AND
GRANDMOTHERS
ROAMED THE
PLAINS, TOO.

BUT
ALL THAT
GOT STOLEN
AWAY.

SO I
THINK I KIND
OF GET IT.

BUT YOU'RE
RIGHT--I'M NOT
PART OF YOUR
VILLAGE.

THE WORLD'S
CHANGING...

...BUT I
COULD NEVER
TELL YOU HOW
YOU SHOULD
ADAPT.

THAT'S
FOR YOU TO
DECIDE.

I'M
JUST TRYING
TO GIVE YOU
SOME TOOLS
TO HELP YOU
SURVIVE WHILE
YOU FIGURE
IT OUT.

WHEN IT'S
READY...
...THIS
CONTROLLER
WILL BELONG TO
YOU...
...NOT
ME.

SO
WHAT DO
YOU SAY?

BOYS...

WHAT DO
YOU NEED ME
TO DO?





AND THEN
THE TIME I SAW
YOU AT
WUNDAGORE...

...YOU
RAMBLLED ON ABOUT
REJECTION AND
HUMILIATION...

...AND THEN
YOU TRIED TO SAVE
THE WORLD BY OPENING
A PORTAL TO A UNIVERSE
OF MONSTERS WHO
WANTED TO KILL
US ALL.

THE LOGIC
NEVER QUITE
MADE SENSE
TO ME.

THAT...
THAT WASN'T
ME, ORORO.

THERE WAS
SOMETHING
BROKEN, INSIDE
MY BRAIN. CABLE
HELPED ME
FIX IT--

NO.



YOU SPAT
OUT MY
MARRIED NAME
LIKE IT WAS
POISON.

MAYBE
YOU WERE
CRAZY...

...BUT THAT
EMOTION
CAME FROM
SOMEWHERE.

I HOLD NO
GRUDGE, AND I
HOPE THE SAME CAN
BE SAID FOR YOU.
JUST KNOW THIS,
FORGE...

...I'M GOING
TO DESTROY
EVERY PIECE OF
EQUIPMENT YOU HAVE
IF YOU GIVE ME THE
SLIGHTEST REASON
TO SUSPECT YOUR
MOTIVES.



MY
GOD...

I
TOLD YOU,
NOAH.







OH,
NOAH.

YOU
STUPID, STUPID
CHILD.

HE'S NOT
STUPID...

...HE JUST
DOESN'T
TRUST US.

JUST LIKE
WE DON'T
TRUST HIM.

AND WHY
SHOULD WE?
WE DON'T REALLY
KNOW EACH
OTHER.

LET'S SAY
IT ALL WENT
ACCORDING
TO PLAN...

...WHAT
HAPPENS WHEN
FORGE LEAVES--
AND THE MACHINE
BREAKS DOWN?

WHAT
HAPPENS IF THE
CLIMATE CHANGES
EVEN FASTER THAN
EXPECTED--AND
THAT TRICKLE OF
RAIN HE PROMISED
ISN'T ENOUGH?

WHAT HAPPENS
IF A WARLORD
CROSSES THE
BORDER TO STEAL
THE TECH?

ON THE
OTHER HAND,
WHAT HAPPENS IF
NOAH SHIRA HAD
THE POWER OF
A GOD?

WHAT
WOULD HE
DO TO THIS
VILLAGE...

...OR THE
TOWN DOWN
THE ROAD THAT
CUT OFF HIS
WATER?



I'M NO
GODDESS.

I DON'T
KNOW THE
ANSWERS.

BUT MAYBE
BY THE TIME THE
TWO OF YOU
REBUILD THE
MACHINE...



...YOU'LL
HAVE FIGURED
IT OUT
TOGETHER.





I STILL SAY STUPID!

KRACK

AH!

AND LUCKY, STUPID, LUCKY CHILD.

AH, MAMA...



THAT WAS...PRETTY STUNNING.

ORORO...

THANKS. I THINK.



...DO YOU STILL...I MEAN...

FORGE. I'M SEEING SOMEONE.

THAT'S...

THAT'S GREAT.

I WAS JUST HOPING MAYBE WE COULD BE...

...FRIENDS.



HOW LONG YOU THINK IT'LL TAKE YOU TO FIX ALL THIS?

MAYBE A MONTH.

NO. A YEAR.

WAIT, WHAT?



YOU'RE NOT
JUST FIXING
MACHINES.
FORGE.

I'LL
COME BACK
IN A YEAR.

AND IF
YOU'RE STILL
HERE...

...STILL
WORKING
WITH THESE
FOLKS...

...MAYBE
WE'LL BE
FRIENDS.

A YEAR'S
NOT TOO
LONG.



"NO."



"NO. IT
ISN'T."



TO BE CONTINUED!





ine